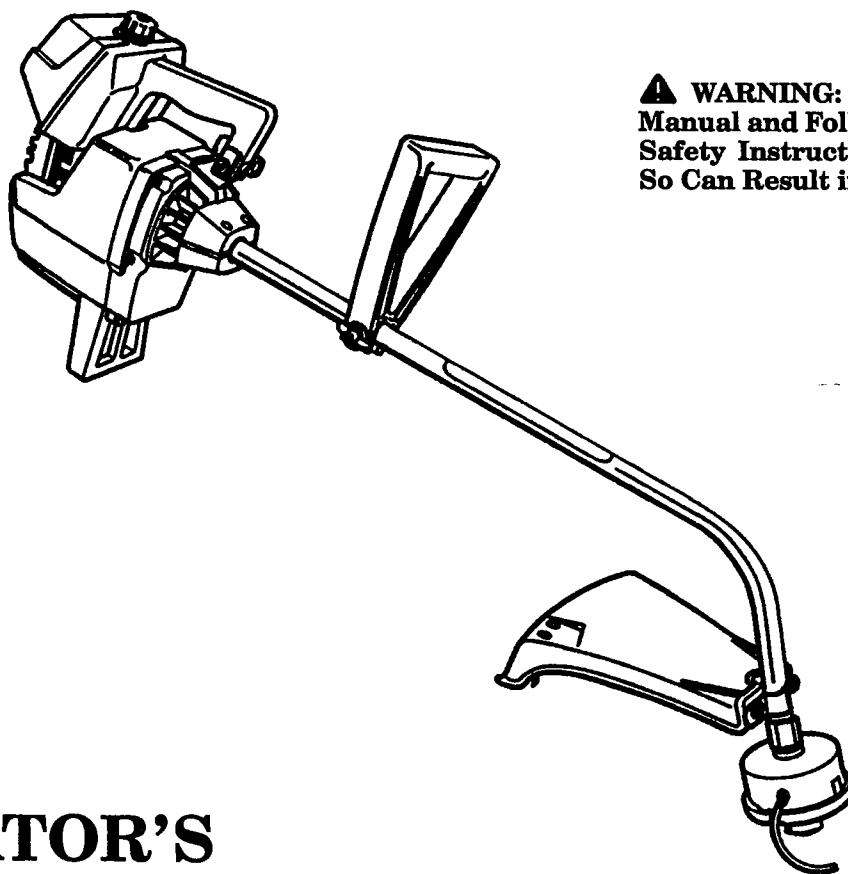


**IMPORTANT MANUAL**

**Do Not Throw Away**

# WEED EATER

TRADEMARK ®



**⚠ WARNING:** Read the Operator's Manual and Follow All Warnings and Safety Instructions. Failure To Do So Can Result in Serious Injury.

**OPERATOR'S  
MANUAL**

**MODEL: GTI™ 15T**

**GAS POWERED TRIMMER**

*Always Wear Eye Protection*

**CUSTOMER  
ASSISTANCE**

**1-800-554-6723**

SEE BACK COVER FOR DETAILS!

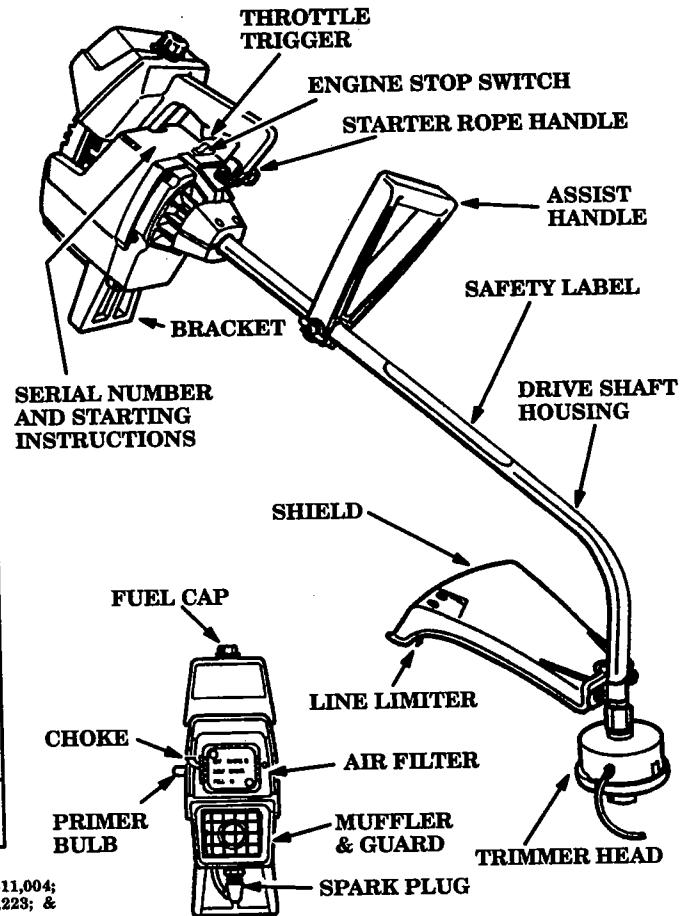
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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## SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE TYPE:	2-Cycle, Air Cooled
DISPLACEMENT:	22cc
ENGINE RPM:	Operating--7500 Idle--3400-4000
IGNITION:	Solid State
CARBURETOR:	Diaphragm All Position With Adjustable Fuel Mixture Jet
ENGINE "OFF":	Positive Switch
STARTER:	Auto Rewind
MUFFLER:	Temperature Limiting (not spark arresting)
CUTTING PATH:	15"
FUEL TANK:	400cc
SPARK PLUG:	Champion (CJ-14)
SPARK PLUG GAP:	.025"
IGNITION TIMING:	Spark Advance - Nonadjustable
MODULE AIR GAP:	.010" to .014"
LUBRICATION:	Gasoline/Oil Mixture - 40:1 (see "Fueling Your Engine")
CUTTING LINE:	.080" Diameter WEED LINE® Brand Line

MANUFACTURED UNDER ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING U.S. PATENTS:  
4,035,912; 4,052,789; 4,112,653; 4,161,820; 4,167,812; 4, 183,138; 4,189,833; 4,211,004;  
4,286,675; 4,362,074; 4,451,983; 4,798,185; 4,823,405; 4,841,929; 4,940,028; 5,020,223; &  
D324,051. OTHER U.S. AND FOREIGN PATENTS PENDING.



### SPECIAL NOTICE

**For users on U.S. Forest Land and in some states, including California (Public Resources Codes 4442 and 4443), Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington:** Certain internal combustion engines operated on forest, brush, and/or grass-covered land in the above areas are required to be equipped with a spark arrester, maintained in effective working order, or the engine must be constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire. Check with your state or local authorities for regulations pertaining to these requirements. Failure to follow these requirements is a violation of the law. **This unit is not factory-equipped with a spark arrester;** however, a spark arrester is available as an optional part. If a spark arrester is required in your area, contact your Authorized Service Dealer for the correct kit.

# ⚠ WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

(See Additional Safety Instructions throughout this Manual)

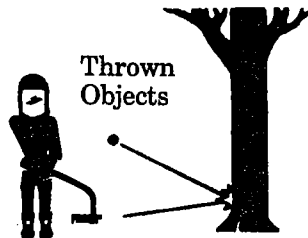
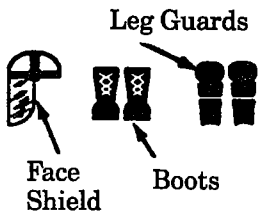
**⚠ WARNING – THIS POWER TOOL CAN BE DANGEROUS!** This unit can cause serious injury or blindness to the operator and others. The warnings and safety instructions in this manual must be followed to provide reasonable safety and efficiency in using this unit. The operator is responsible for following the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the unit. **Read the entire Operator's Manual before assembling and using this unit!** Restrict the use of this power tool to persons who read, understand and follow the warnings and instructions in this manual and on the unit.



## ⚠ DANGER

**BLADES OR SLINGING HEADS CAN COME OFF AND CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY.**

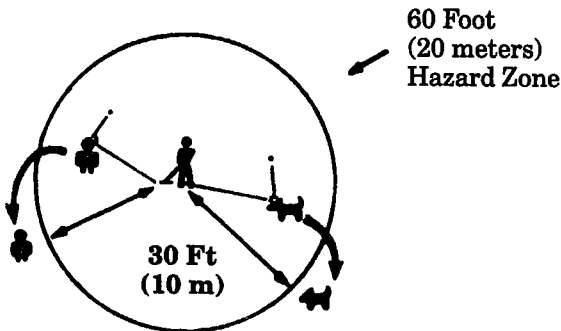
- THIS UNIT IS DESIGNED FOR LINE TRIMMER USE ONLY
- NEVER USE ANY OTHER CUTTING ATTACHMENT WITH THIS UNIT.



## ⚠ WARNING

**TRIMMER LINE CAN THROW OBJECTS VIOLENTLY.**

- YOU CAN BE BLINDED OR INJURED.
- WEAR EYE AND LEG PROTECTION.



## ⚠ WARNING

**HAZARD ZONE FOR THROWN OBJECTS**

- TRIMMER LINE CAN THROW OBJECTS VIOLENTLY.
- OTHERS CAN BE BLINDED OR INJURED.
- KEEP PEOPLE AND ANIMALS 30 FEET (10 METERS) AWAY.



Operator's Manual



Safety Labels

## ⚠ WARNING

**READ OPERATOR'S MANUAL.**

- FOLLOW ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS.
- FAILURE TO DO SO CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

# WARNINGS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS....(Continued)

## ▲ OPERATOR SAFETY

- Always wear safety eye protection.
- Always wear long pants, boots and gloves. Wearing safety leg guards is recommended. Do not go barefoot or wear sandals, jewelry, short pants, loose clothing, or clothing with loosely hanging ties, straps, tassels, etc.; they can be caught in moving parts.
- Secure hair so it is above shoulder length.
- Do not operate this unit when you are tired, ill, or under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication.
- Wear hearing protection if you use this unit for more than 1-1/2 hours per day.
- Never start or run the engine inside a closed room or building. Breathing exhaust fumes can kill.
- Keep handles free of oil and fuel.

## ▲ UNIT/MAINTENANCE SAFETY

- Look for and replace damaged or loose parts before each use. Look for and repair fuel leaks before use. Keep the unit in good working condition.
- Replace trimmer head parts that are chipped, cracked, broken, or damaged in any other way before using the unit.
- Use only .080" diameter WEED EATER® brand line. Never use wire, rope, string, etc.
- Make sure the unit is assembled correctly as listed in this manual.
- Make carburetor adjustments with the lower end supported to prevent the trimmer line from contacting any object.
- Keep others away when making carburetor adjustments.
- Disconnect the spark plug before performing maintenance except carburetor adjustments.
- Use only genuine WEED EATER accessories and replacement parts as recommended for this unit.

## ▲ FUEL SAFETY

- Mix and pour fuel outdoors.
- Keep away from sparks or flames.
- Use a container approved for fuel.
- Do not smoke or allow smoking near fuel or the unit or while using the unit.
- Wipe up all fuel spills before starting engine.

- Move at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from fueling site before starting engine.
- Stop engine before removing fuel cap.
- Empty the fuel tank before storing the unit. Use up fuel left in the carburetor by starting the engine and letting the engine run until it stops.
- Store unit and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sparks or open flames from water heaters, electric motors or switches, furnaces, etc.

## ▲ CUTTING SAFETY

- Inspect the area to be cut before each use. Remove objects (rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, string, etc.) which can be thrown or become entangled in the trimmer head.
- Keep others including children, animals, bystanders and helpers outside the 60 foot (20 meter) Hazard Zone. Stop the engine immediately if you are approached.
- Always keep the engine on the right-hand side of your body.
- Hold the unit firmly with both hands.
- Keep firm footing and balance. Do not over-reach.
- Keep the trimmer head below waist level.
- Do not raise the engine above your waist.
- Keep all parts of your body away from trimmer head and muffler when engine is running.
- Cut from your left to your right.
- Use only for jobs explained in this manual.

## ▲ TRANSPORTING AND STORAGE

- Stop the unit before carrying.
- Keep the muffler away from your body.
- Allow the engine to cool, and secure the unit before storing or transporting in a vehicle.
- Empty the fuel tank before storing or transporting the unit. Use up fuel left in the carburetor by starting the engine and letting the engine run until it stops.
- Store unit and fuel in an area where fuel vapors cannot reach sparks or open flames from water heaters, electric motors or switches, furnaces, etc.
- Store unit so line limiter cannot accidentally cause injury. The unit can be hung by the bracket below the engine or by drive shaft housing.
- Store the unit out of the reach of children.

*If situations occur which are not covered in this manual, use care and good judgment.  
If you need assistance, contact your Authorized Service Dealer or the  
CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE HOTLINE, 1-800-554-6723.*

### SAFETY NOTICE

Exposure to vibrations through prolonged use of gasoline powered hand tools could cause blood vessel or nerve damage in the fingers, hands, and wrists of people prone to circulation disorders or abnormal swellings. Prolonged use in cold weather has been linked to blood vessel damage in otherwise healthy people. If symptoms occur such as numbness, pain, loss of strength, change in skin color or texture, or loss of feeling in the fingers, hands or wrists, discontinue the use of this tool and seek medical attention. An anti-vibration system does not guarantee the avoidance of these problems. Users who operate power tools on a continual and regular basis must monitor closely their physical condition and the condition of this tool.

# KNOW YOUR UNIT

## A. INTRODUCTION

Your Trimmer is a versatile product developed for large lawns and to make short work of a variety of lawn care tasks -- trimming, scalping, mowing, and sweeping.

### Special Features Include:

- ComforTouch® Anti-vibration Handle
- All-Position Carburetor
- Adjustable Assist Handle
- TAP-N-GO® Cutting Head
- 15" Cutting Path

## B. UNPACKING INSTRUCTIONS

1. After removing the contents from the carton, check parts against the Carton Contents list.
2. Examine the parts for damage. Do not use damaged parts.
3. *Notify your WEED EATER dealer immediately if a part is missing or damaged.*

**NOTE:** Your unit has been shipped with a plastic shipping guard over the primer bulb (see "Specifications" for location). Remove and discard the plastic shipping guard.

**NOTE:** It is normal to hear the fuel filter rattle in an empty fuel tank.

## C. CARTON CONTENTS

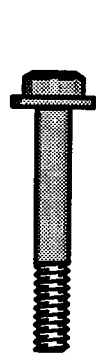
KEY	
NO.	QTY
1.	Engine 1
2.	Drive Shaft Assembly w/Safety Label 1
3.	Trimmer Head Shield 1
4.	Line Trimmer Head 1
5.	Assist Handle 1
--	Operator's Manual 1
--	Loose Parts Bag 1

### LOOSE PARTS BAG CONTENTS:

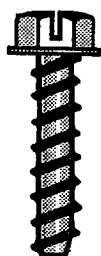
6.	Hex Wrench (not shown)	1
7.	3.2 oz. 40:1 Engine Oil (not shown)	1
A.	Screw	2
B.	Screw	2
C.	Screw	1
D.	Dust Cup	1
E.	Bracket	1
F.	Wing Nut	1
G.	Flat Washer	1
H.	Lock Nut	2

## HARDWARE CHART SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE

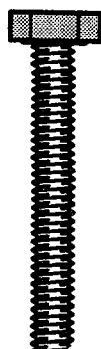
Refer to the hardware reference letters below during assembly.  
**NOTE:** This Hardware is packaged in the Plastic Bag.



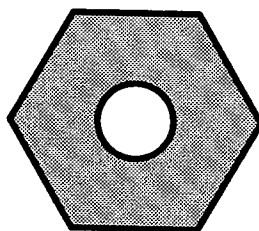
A.  
Qty 2



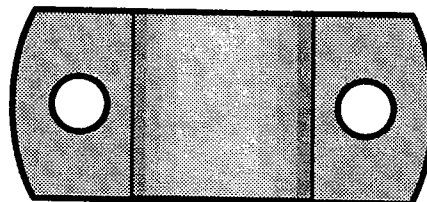
B.  
Qty 2



C.  
Qty 1



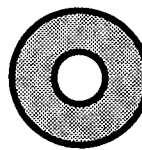
D.  
Qty 1



E.  
Qty 1



F.  
Qty 1



G.  
Qty 1



H.  
Qty 2

# ASSEMBLY

(If tool is received assembled, repeat all steps in this section to be sure assembly is correct and is adjusted for the operator.)

## PREPARATION

This Manual is designed to help you assemble the tool and to provide its safe operation. It is important that you read the entire manual to become familiar with the tool *before* you begin assembly. If you have any questions or need further assistance, call our CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE HOTLINE at 1-800-554-6723.

### 1. Read your Operator's Manual

### 2. Tools you will need:

- Hex Wrench provided with the tool.
- Adjustable Wrench
- Standard Screwdriver

## ASSEMBLY STEPS (Refer to illustrations)

### DRIVE SHAFT HOUSING

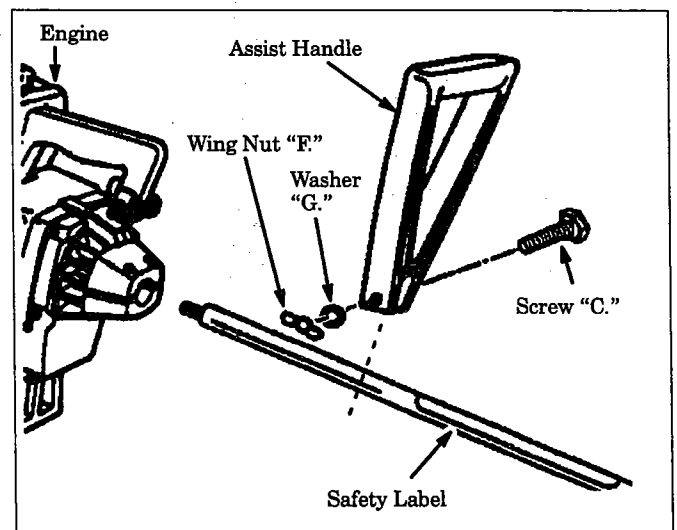
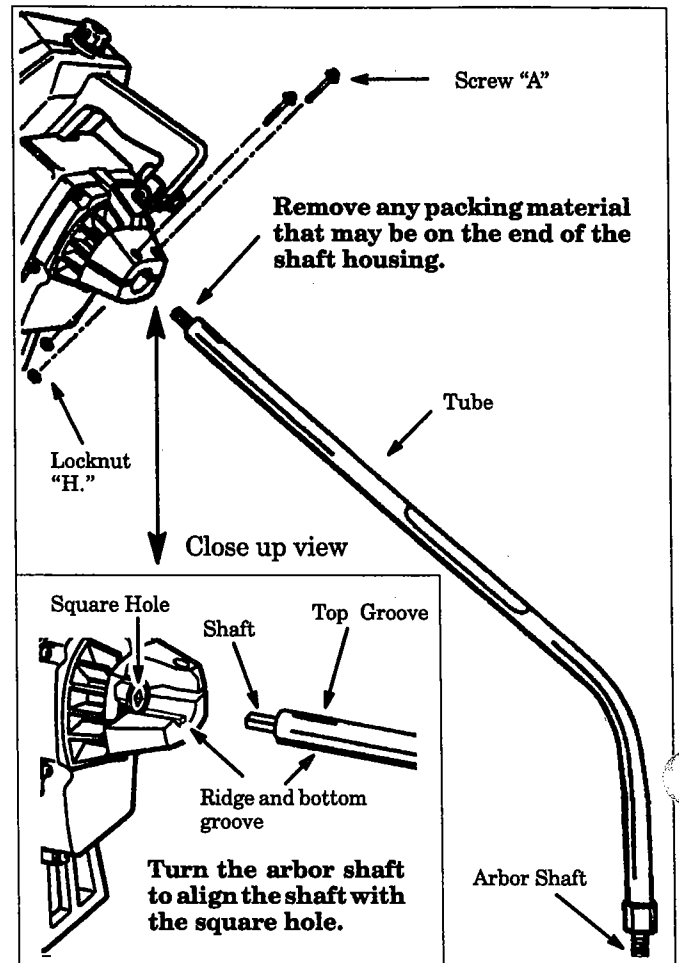
- Place the two screws "A." into the holes on the engine as shown in the illustration.
- Position the locknuts "H." in the lower holes.
- Tighten the screws with the hex wrench (provided) just enough to hold the hardware together while holding the locknuts with your other hand.
- Remove the packing cover from the straight end of the shaft housing if so equipped. Your unit may not have a packing cover.

**NOTE:** Make sure the shaft inside the tube does not fall out of the tube. Dirt on the shaft will significantly reduce the life of the unit. If the drive shaft falls out of the housing, clean, re-lubricate, and re-install. See "Drive Shaft Lubrication" in the Maintenance section.

- Align the bottom groove on the tube with the ridge on the lower wall of the engine opening.
- Turn the shaft to align the square end of the shaft with the square hole inside the front opening of the engine.
- Firmly push the tube into the engine opening until the top groove is no longer visible.
- Tighten screws "A." alternately with the hex wrench until secure.

### ASSIST HANDLE

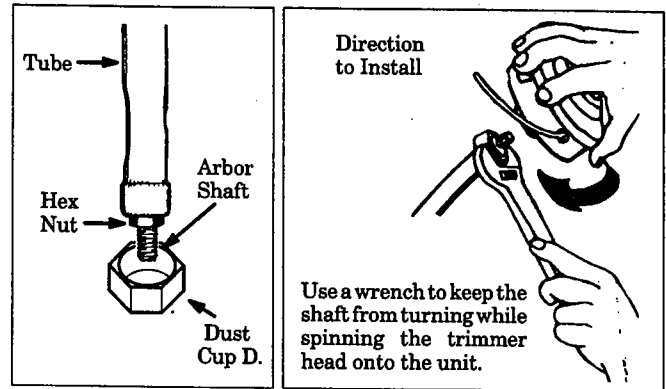
- Align the assist handle on the tube between the safety label and the engine. Make sure the hollow side of the handle is toward the engine.
- Firmly push the assist handle onto the tube while supporting the tube.
- Insert the assist handle hardware as shown.
- Adjust assist handle up or down the tube for comfort.



## TRIMMER HEAD

- Place the dust cup "D." over the hex nut on the bottom of the tube – see illustration. The hex nut should fit completely inside the dust cup.
- Hold the dust cup with a wrench to keep the arbor shaft from turning.
- Thread the trimmer head onto the arbor shaft against the dust cup and hand tighten firmly.

**NOTE:** Unless trimmer head is tightened adequately, it can unthread when engine is started or stopped. If this situation occurs, reinstall the trimmer head and tighten more securely.



## SHIELD ATTACHMENT

### ▲ WARNING

The shield must be properly installed. The shield provides partial protection from the risk of thrown objects to the operator and others and is equipped with a line limiter which cuts excess line to the proper length.

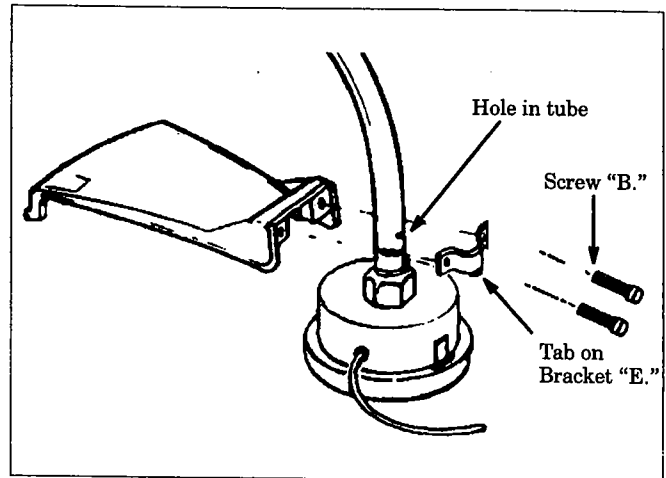
### ▲ WARNING

Do not alter or remove the bracket tab. When installed correctly, the bracket tab ensures proper shield alignment. Failure to install the shield in position shown in illustration can result in serious injury to the operator.

**CAUTION:** The line limiter (on the underside of the shield) is sharp and can cut you.

- Match the tab on bracket "E." with the hole in the tube.
- Attach the shield to the bracket with the two screws "B." Tighten evenly and securely.

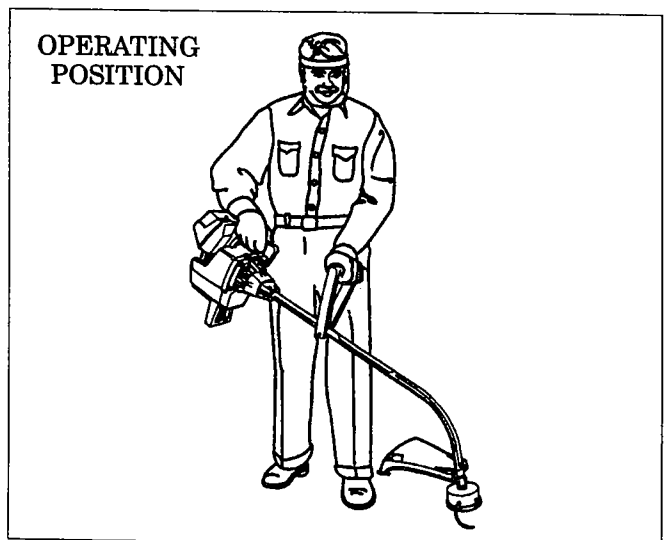
**NOTE:** Although a screwdriver slot is provided in screws "B.", it is easier to install the screws with a wrench or socket.



**NOTE:** It is possible that a small space will be left between the bracket and the shield when the screws are fully tightened.

## OPERATING POSITION

- **Before starting the engine**, stand as shown and check for the following:
  - Left arm fully extended, hand holding assist handle.
  - Right arm slightly bent, hand holding top handle, fingers on throttle trigger.
  - Top handle below waist level.
  - Weight of tool evenly distributed between arms.
  - Without operator bending over, the trimmer head is near and parallel to the ground and easily contacts the material to be cut.
- **Adjust the assist handle** up or down the drive shaft housing (*but above the safety labels*) to a comfortable position.
- Rotate assist handle from left to right to tilt the angle of the trimmer head when cutting a large, sloped area such as a ditch bank.



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# ACCESSORIES

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ITEM	STOCK NO.
SAFETY FACE SHIELD .....	952-701601
SAFETY GLASSES .....	952-701645
SAFETY LEG GUARDS .....	952-701600
WEED EATER® 40:1 2-CYCLE ENGINE OIL	
--3.2 oz. container (mix with 1 gallon gasoline) .....	952-030133
--8 oz. container (mix with 2-1/2 gallons gasoline) .....	952-030128
--19.6 oz. container .....	952-031138
FUEL CAP .....	952-701583
TAP-N-GO® III TRIMMER HEAD .....	952-701618
SPOOL W/LINE .....	952-701619
NYLON CUTTING LINE	
--80 Ft. (.080 Dia.) Cutting Line .....	952-701534
--200 Ft. (.080 Dia.) Cutting Line .....	952-701595
--400 Ft. (.080 Dia.) Cutting Line .....	952-701590
FLEX SHAFT LUBE .....	952-701570
AIR FILTER .....	952-701614
SPARK PLUG .....	530-030077

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## NOTES



# FUELING YOUR ENGINE

## FUEL SAFETY

- Be sure to read the fuel safety section on page 4 of this manual before you begin.
- If you do not understand the fuel safety section **DO NOT** attempt to fuel your unit; seek help from someone that does understand the fuel safety section or call our Customer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-554-6723.

## FUEL MIXTURE

- Your unit is powered by a two-cycle engine that requires a fuel mixture of regular unleaded gasoline and a high quality engine oil specially made for 2-cycle, air cooled engines.
- Gasoline must be clean and not over two months old.

**CAUTION:** Too little oil or incorrect oil will cause the engine to overheat and seize.

- Always mix the fuel thoroughly in a container since gasoline and oil do not readily combine.

## DO NOT USE:

- **AUTOMOTIVE OIL**
- **NMMA OIL for boat engines**

These oils do not have proper additives for 2-cycle, air-cooled engines and can cause engine damage.

## USE THE FOLLOWING OIL:

- **WEED EATER 40:1, 2-cycle engine oil**

Paramount, Poulan, or Poulan Pro brand 40:1, 2-cycle engine oil is acceptable if mixed according to the instructions on the container.

**40 PARTS GASOLINE TO 1 PART OIL=**  
1 gallon gasoline to 3.2 fl. oz. oil  
2.5 gallon gasoline to 8.0 fl. oz. oil

## HOW MUCH OIL TO USE:

**WEED EATER 40:1, 2-cycle engine oil** is sold in both 3.2 ounce and 8 ounce containers. When you buy the 3.2 ounce container, mix it with 1 gallon of regular unleaded gasoline. If you purchase the 8 ounce container, mix it with 2-1/2 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline. Both of the above mixtures will provide 40 parts gasoline to 1 part oil.

Paramount, Poulan, or Poulan Pro brand 40:1, 2-cycle engine oil is also sold in the same size containers and may be mixed in the same manner.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU USE ANOTHER BRAND OF OIL:

Not all air cooled, 2-cycle engine oils have the same qualities. If **WEED EATER**, Paramount, Poulan, or Poulan Pro brand 2-cycle engine oil is not available, use a high quality 2-cycle engine oil recommended for air cooled engines. Mix at a ratio of 40:1 by mixing 3.2 ounces oil with 1 gallon of gasoline. *40:1 must be listed as a suggested mix ratio.*

## HOW TO MIX FUEL AND FILL TANK

- Pour the proper measure of engine oil into an approved, marked fuel container. Then, fill the container with regular unleaded gasoline.

**NOTE:** If gasoline is already in the container, add the proper measure of 2-cycle engine oil. Then, close the container tightly and shake it momentarily.

**NOTE:** Do not mix gasoline and oil directly in the fuel tank.

- Slowly remove the fuel cap.
- Using a spout or funnel, fill the fuel tank with fuel mix.
- Reinstall the fuel cap securely.

# STARTING YOUR ENGINE

(For location of controls, refer to "Specifications.")

## BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE:

- Fuel engine. Move 10 feet (3 meters) away from fueling site.

### ⚠ WARNING

*The trimmer head will turn while starting the engine.*

- Rest engine and shield on ground, supporting trimmer head off ground.

**NOTE:** Remove and discard the plastic shipping guard on the primer bulb (if so equipped).

## STARTING A COLD ENGINE OR WARM ENGINE AFTER RUNNING OUT OF FUEL:

- Make sure the switch is in the "On" position.
- Move the choke lever to the "Full Choke" position.
- Slowly press the primer bulb 6 times.
- Squeeze and hold the throttle trigger. *Keep the throttle trigger fully squeezed until the engine runs smoothly.*
- Pull starter rope sharply 5 times.

**NOTE:** The engine may sound as if it is trying to start before the 5<sup>th</sup> pull. If so, go to the next step immediately.

- Move the choke lever to the "Half Choke" position.
- Pull the starter rope sharply until the engine runs, but no more than 6 pulls.

**NOTE:** If the engine has not started after 6 pulls (at half choke), check to make sure the switch and the choke lever are in the proper positions. Then, move the choke lever to the "Full Choke" position and press the primer bulb 6 times; squeeze and hold the throttle trigger and pull the starter rope 2 more times. Move the choke lever to "Half Choke" and pull the starter rope until the engine runs, but no more than 6 more pulls.

**NOTE:** If the engine still has not started, it is probably flooded. Proceed to "Starting a Flooded Engine."

- Allow the engine to run 15 seconds, then move the choke lever to "Off Choke." Allow the unit to run for 30 more seconds at "Off Choke" before releasing the throttle trigger.

**NOTE:** If engine dies with the choke lever at the "Off Choke" position, move the choke lever to "Half Choke" and pull the rope until the engine runs.

- To stop the engine, move the switch to "Off."

### ⚠ WARNING

Avoid any bodily contact with the muffler when starting a warm engine. A hot muffler can cause serious burns.

## STARTING A WARM ENGINE THAT HAS NOT RUN OUT OF FUEL:

- Make sure the switch is in the "On" position.
- Squeeze and hold the throttle trigger. *Keep the throttle trigger fully squeezed until the engine runs smoothly.*
- Move the choke lever to the "Half Choke" position.
- Pull starter rope sharply until engine runs, but no more than 5 pulls.
- Allow the engine to run 15 seconds, then move the choke lever to "Off Choke."

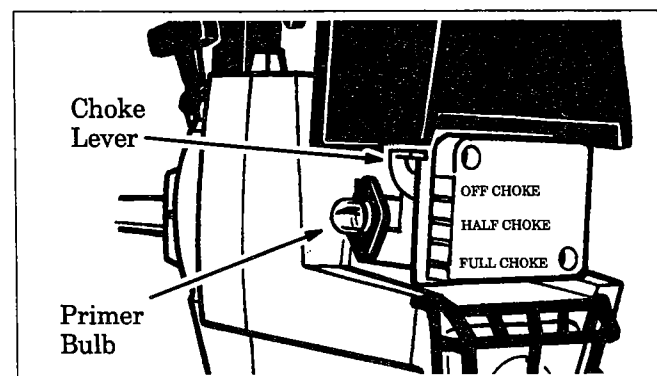
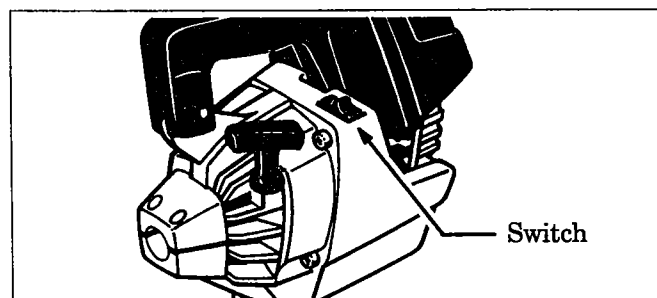
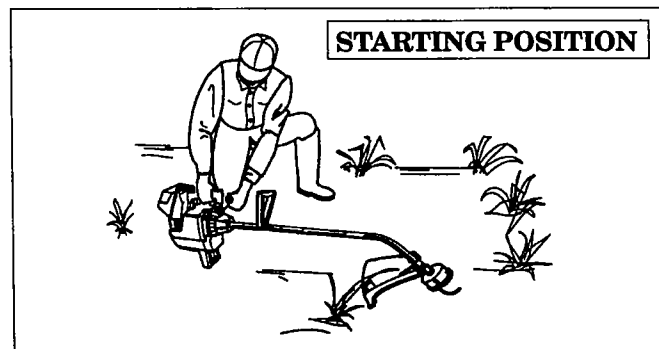
**NOTE:** If engine has not started, pull starter rope 5 more pulls. If engine still does not run, it is probably flooded. Proceed to "Starting a Flooded Engine."

- To stop the engine, move switch to the "Off" position.

## STARTING A FLOODED ENGINE:

Flooded engines can be started by placing the switch in the "On" position and the choke lever in the "Off Choke" position; then, pull the rope to clear the engine of excess fuel. This could require pulling the starter rope *many times* depending on how badly the unit is flooded.

If the unit still doesn't start, call the Customer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-554-6723.

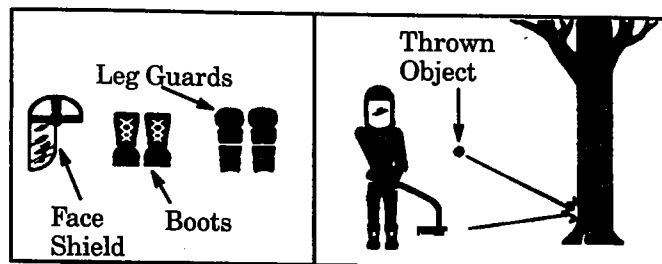


## D. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Bring the engine to cutting speed before entering the material to be cut.
  - a. Do not run the engine at a higher speed than necessary. The cutting line will cut efficiently when the engine is run at less than full throttle. At lower speeds, there is less engine noise and vibration. The cutting line will last longer and will be less likely to "weld" onto the spool.
  - b. If trimmer head does not turn when the engine is in operation, make sure the drive shaft housing is properly seated in the engine shroud. Refer to "Assembly-Drive Shaft Housing."

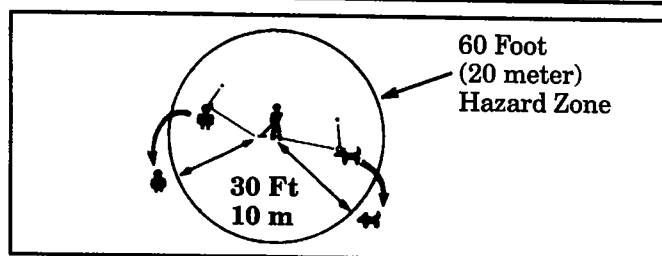
2. Always release the throttle trigger and allow the engine to return to idle speed when not cutting.
3. To stop engine:
  - a. Release the throttle trigger.
  - b. Move ignition switch to the "Off" position.

## USING YOUR TRIMMER



### ⚠ WARNING - THROWS OBJECTS

The rapidly moving line causes objects to be thrown violently. The shield will not provide complete protection to the operator or others. **The operator must wear a safety face shield or goggles. Always wear heavy, long pants and boots. Keep others at least 30 feet (10 meters) away.**



### ⚠ WARNING - HAZARD ZONE

This tool will throw objects and cut. **Keep others including children, animals, bystanders and helpers at least 30 feet (10 meters) away from the operator and tool. Stop the engine if you are approached.**



### ⚠ WARNING - DAMAGED TRIMMER HEAD

Trimmer head parts that are chipped, cracked or damaged in any other way can fly apart and cause serious injury. **Do not use. Replace damaged parts before using the tool.**

## A. LINE TRIMMER SAFETY

### 1. OPERATOR

- a. Always wear eye protection when operating, servicing, or performing maintenance on your unit. See "Accessories."
- b. Always wear heavy, long pants, boots, and gloves. See "Accessories." Do not go barefoot or wear sandals, jewelry, short pants, loose clothing, or clothing with loosely hanging ties, straps, or tassels; they can be caught in moving parts. Secure hair so it is above shoulder length. Being fully covered will help protect you from pieces of toxic plants such as poison ivy thrown by the trimmer head which could be more of a hazard than touching the plant itself.
- c. Do not operate this tool when you are tired, ill or under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication.
- d. Do not swing unit with such force that you are in danger of losing your balance.
- e. Never start or run the engine inside a closed room or building. Breathing exhaust fumes can kill.
- f. Keep handles free of oil and fuel.

### 2. TOOL

- a. Inspect the entire tool before each use. Replace damaged parts. Check for fuel leaks and make sure all fasteners are in place and securely fastened.
- b. Use only .080" diameter WEED LINE brand line. Never use wire, rope, string, etc.
- c. Be sure the shield is properly attached.
- d. Make sure the trimmer head is properly installed and securely fastened. Refer to "Assembly."
- e. Make carburetor adjustments with drive shaft housing supported to prevent the trimmer line from contacting any object.
- f. Keep others away when making carburetor adjustments.
- g. Use only genuine WEED EATER accessories or attachments as recommended.

### 3. CUTTING

- Inspect the area to be cut before each use. Remove objects (rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, string, etc.) which can be thrown or become entangled in the trimmer head.
- Always keep the engine on the right-hand side of your body.
- Hold the tool firmly with both hands.
- Keep firm footing and balance. Do not over-reach.
- Keep the trimmer head below waist level.

- Do not raise the engine above your waist.
- Keep all parts of your body away from the trimmer line when the engine is running.
- Keep all parts of your body away from a hot muffler.
- Use this unit only for jobs explained in this manual.

#### ⚠ WARNING

Avoid any contact with a hot muffler. A hot muffler can cause serious burns.

### B. TRIMMER LINE ADVANCE

- The trimmer line will advance approximately 2 inches each time the bottom of the trimmer head is tapped on the ground with the engine running at full throttle.
- The most efficient line length is the maximum length allowed by the line limiter.
- Always keep the shield in place when the tool is being operated.

#### • To Advance Line:

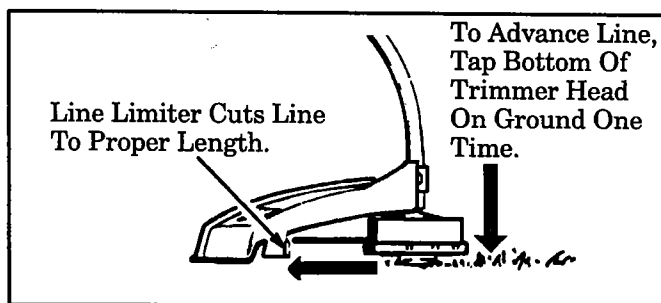
- Operate the engine at full throttle.
- Hold the trimmer head parallel to and above the grassy area.
- Tap the bottom of the trimmer head lightly on the ground one time. Approximately 2 inches of line will be advanced with each tap.

**NOTE:** Always tap the trimmer head on a grassy area. Tapping on surfaces such as concrete or asphalt can cause excessive wear to the trimmer head.

**NOTE:** If the line is worn down to two inches or less, more than one tap will be required to obtain the most efficient line length.

#### ⚠ WARNING

Use only .080" diameter WEED LINE brand line. Other sizes of line will not advance properly and can cause serious injury. Do not use other materials such as wire, string, rope, etc. Wire can break off during cutting and become a dangerous missile that can cause serious injury.

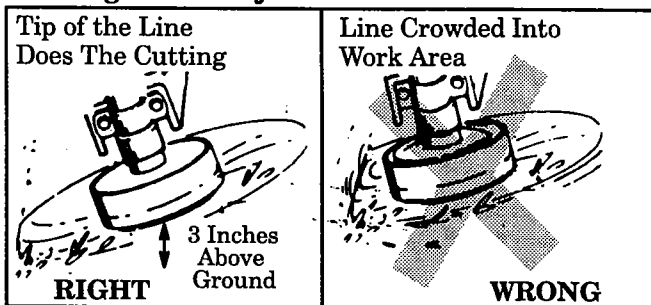


### C. CUTTING METHODS

#### ⚠ WARNING

Use minimum speed and do not crowd the line when cutting around hard objects (rock, gravel, fence posts, etc), which can damage the trimmer head, become entangled in the line, or be thrown causing a serious hazard.

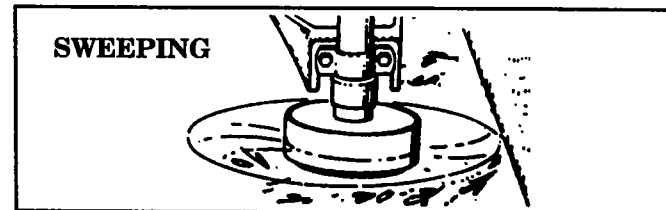
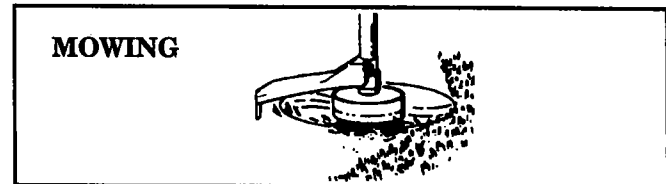
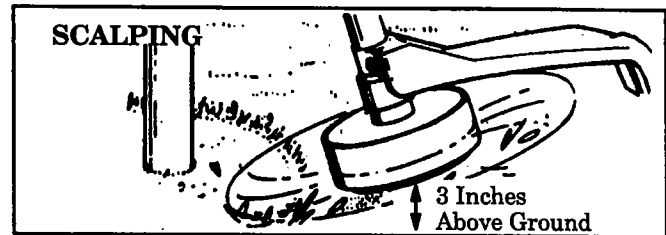
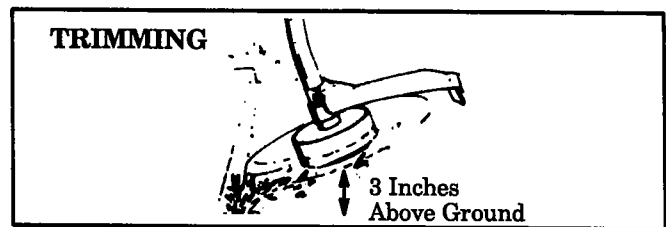
- The tip of the line does the cutting. You will achieve the best performance and minimum line wear by not crowding line into the cutting area. The right and wrong ways are shown below.
- The line will easily remove grass and weeds from around walls, fences, trees and flower beds, *but it also can cut the tender bark of trees or shrubs and scar fences.* To help avoid damage especially to delicate vegetation or trees with tender bark, shorten line to 4-5 inches and use at less than full throttle.
- For trimming or scalping, use less than full throttle to increase line life and decrease head wear, especially:
  - during light duty cutting.
  - near objects around which the line can wrap such as small posts, trees or fence wire.
- For mowing or sweeping, use full throttle for a good clean job.



#### ⚠ WARNING

Always wear eye protection. Never lean over the trimmer head. Rocks or debris can ricochet or be thrown into eyes and face and cause blindness or other serious injury.

1. **TRIMMING** – Hold the bottom of the trimmer head about 3 inches above the ground and at an angle. Allow only the tip of the line to make contact. Do not force the trimmer line into the work area.
2. **SCALPING** – The scalping technique removes unwanted vegetation. Hold the bottom of the trimmer head about 3 inches above the ground and at an angle. Allow the tip of the line to strike the ground around trees, posts, monuments, etc. *This technique increases line wear.*
3. **MOWING** – Your trimmer is ideal for mowing in places conventional lawn mowers cannot reach. In the mowing position, keep the line parallel to the ground. Avoid pressing the head into the ground as this can scalp the ground and damage the tool.
4. **SWEEPING** – The fanning action of the rotating line can be used for a quick and easy clean up. Keep the line parallel to and above the surfaces being swept and move the tool from side to side.



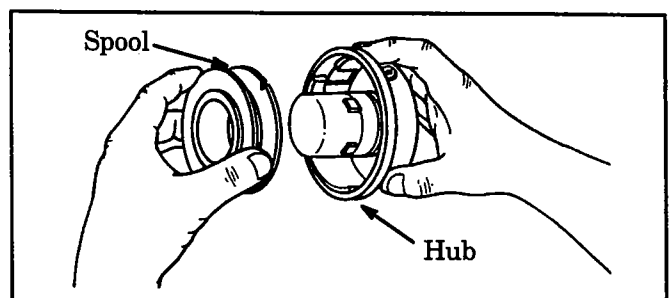
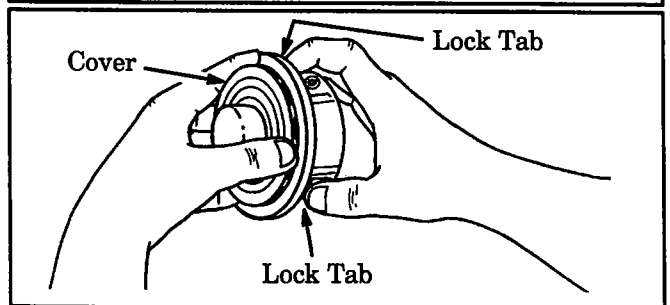
## D. LINE REPLACEMENT

- For proper line feed:
  - Use only genuine **WEED EATER pre-wound spools and .080" diameter WEED LINE** brand line. Use of other types of spools or lines can result in excessive breakage, line welding and improper line feed.
  - **Pre-wound spools offer the most convenient method for replacing line** as well as optimum performance.
- Always clean dirt and debris from the spool and hub when performing any type maintenance.

### 1. Installing Spool w/Line

- a. Hold the trimmer head as shown. Press the two lock tabs and remove the cover.
- b. Remove the spool.
- c. Clean dirt and debris from all parts.
- d. Inspect all trimmer head parts for damage. Replace damaged parts.

**▲ WARNING**  
Trimmer head parts that are chipped, cracked or damaged in any way can fly apart and cause serious injury. Do not use. Replace damaged parts before using the tool.



- e. Catch the line in the notch in the spool. Leave about 4 inches of line hanging from the spool.
- f. Place your index finger over the line and notch as shown. Insert the end of the line in the line exit hole.
- g. Align the line and notch with the line exit hole. Place spool in hub. Make sure the trimmer line is not caught between the rim of the spool and the hub.

**NOTE:** To seat the spool in the hub, it may be necessary to pull the line through the line exit hole until the spool drops into place.

- h. Align the lock tabs on the cover over the catches on the hub. Push the cover down onto the hub until the parts snap together.

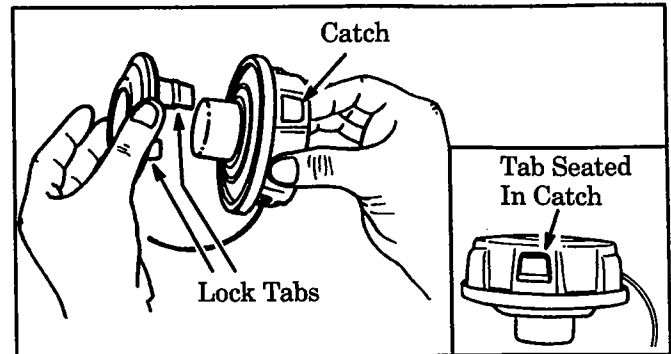
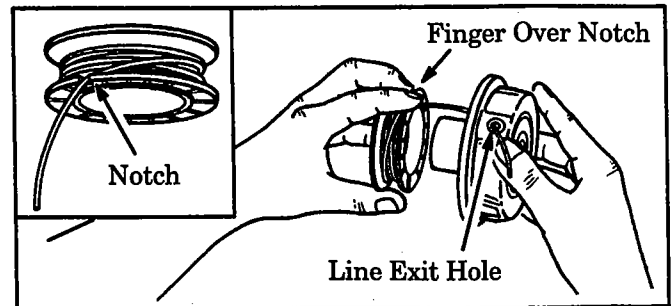
#### ▲ WARNING

**The lock tabs must be latched onto the Hub. If installed incorrectly, the Cover can fly off and become a dangerous missile.**

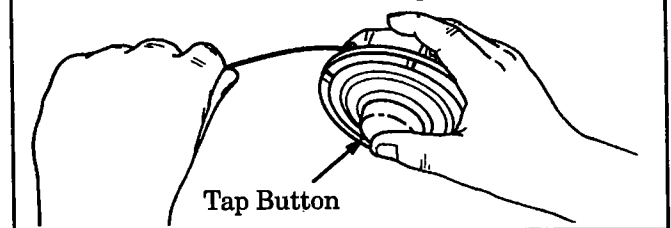
- i. Check to make sure the lock tabs are properly fastened as shown.
- j. Obtain correct line length (4 inches) by pressing the tap button and pulling on line again.

**NOTE:** If tap button gets knocked out of the hub, reassemble parts as follows:

- Remove the cover and spool.
- Place the spring in the hub cylinder.
- Place the tap button over the spring and hub cylinder.
- Align the slots in the tap button with the fins in the base of the hub. Push parts together.
- Reinstall the spool and cover.



Approximately 2 Inches of Line Can Be Pulled From the Trimmer Head Each Time the Tap Button is Pressed.



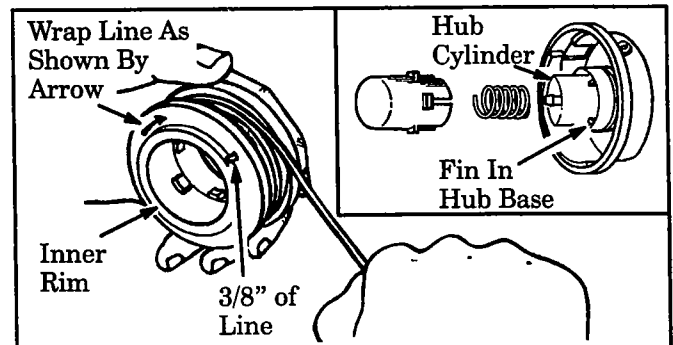
## 2. Installing Line on Spool

### a. To replace the Line on existing Spool:

- 1.) Follow "Installing Spool w/Line," steps "a.-d." and remove any line remaining on the Spool.
- 2.) Use a 25 foot length of .080" WEED LINE brand line.
- 3.) Insert 1/4 to 3/8 inch of the end of the Line through the hole in the inner rim of the Spool. Allow no more than 1/2 inch of line to extend beyond the rim to avoid interference with tapping action.
- 4.) Wrap line onto the spool firmly and evenly in the direction shown by the arrow on the spool.

**NOTE:** The Line must be wrapped firmly and evenly for proper line feed.

- 5.) Follow "Installing Spool w/Line" steps "e.-j."



- b. If the line breaks off or backs up in the trimmer head, follow "Installing Spool w/Line," steps "a.-d." Pull slack in line until the line is tightly wound on spool, leaving 4-6 inches of extended line. Continue with steps "e.-j."

## 3. Trouble Shooting the Trimmer Head and Line

- **Does not advance or breaks while cutting:**
  - Improperly wound onto spool.
  - Line size incorrect.
  - Too little line outside head.

- **Pulls back into head:**
  - Too little line outside of head.
- **Welds onto spool:**
  - Line size incorrect.
  - Crowding line against material being cut.
  - Cutting at higher speeds than necessary.

# GENERAL MAINTENANCE

## A. MAINTENANCE SAFETY

1. Maintain unit according to recommended procedures. Keep cutting line at proper length.
2. Disconnect spark plug before performing maintenance except carburetor adjustments.
3. Make carburetor adjustments with drive shaft housing supported to prevent the trimmer line from contacting any object.
4. Keep others away when making carburetor adjustments.
5. Replace trimmer head parts that are cracked, chipped or damaged before using the unit.
6. Use only .080" diameter WEED LINE brand line. Never use wire, rope, string, etc.
7. Use only genuine WEED EATER replacement parts. Use of other brands of replacement parts can cause damage to your unit or injury to the operator or others. Your warranty does not cover damage or liability caused by the use of accessories and/or attachments not specifically recommended by WEED EATER.
8. Inspect the entire unit. Replace damaged parts. Check for fuel leaks and make sure all fasteners are in place and securely fastened.

## B. AIR FILTER

**NOTE:** A dirty air filter decreases the life and performance of the engine and may increase fuel consumption and harmful emissions.

### 1. Clean the Air Filter:

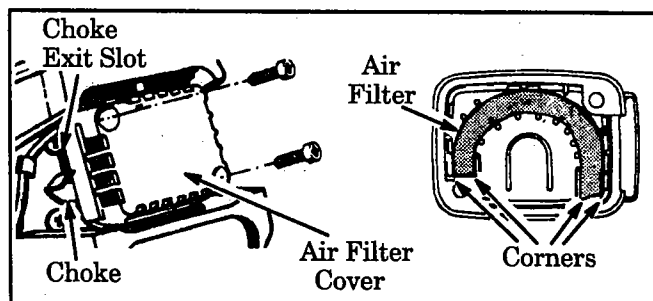
- Always after 5 tanks of fuel or 5 hours of operation, whichever is less.
- More frequently, in dusty conditions.
  - a. Loosen the two screws on the air filter cover enough to remove the cover from engine.
  - b. Remove the air filter from the cover.
  - c. Wash filter in soap and water.
  - d. Squeeze filter dry and replace in cover.

**CAUTION:** Do not clean the air filter in gasoline or any other flammable solvent; doing so may create a fire hazard or produce harmful evaporative emissions.

- e. Reinstall the air filter cover, making sure the choke exit slot is placed over the choke lever.

**CAUTION:** Make sure the air filter is fitted into the corners of the cover to keep dust from entering the engine and causing engine damage.

**NOTE:** If replacing the air filter, see the Accessory List for proper part number.



## C. DRIVE SHAFT LUBRICATION

- Lubricate the Drive Shaft:
  - After each ten (10) hours of operation.
  - Before operating if the unit has been stored for 90 days or longer.
- See the Accessory List for flex shaft lube part number.

### ⚠ WARNING

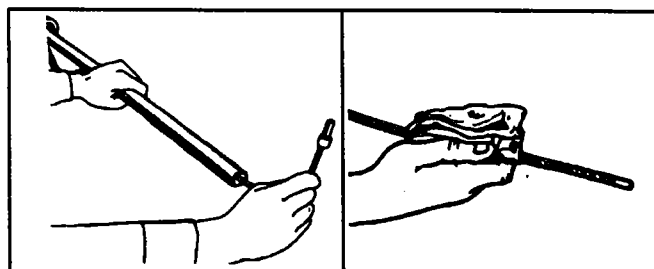
If the engine is hot, avoid touching the muffler. A hot muffler can cause serious burns.

**CAUTION:** Lay the drive shaft on a clean surface. Avoid laying the shaft on the floor, ground, or on any other surface that may have dirt or debris. Even after wiping shaft, grease residue can pick up particles that can cause damage or premature failure.

**CAUTION:** Take care to avoid injuring your hands and fingers with broken wires when checking for damage or wiping the shaft. A cloth will not prevent broken wires from puncturing or tearing your skin.

### • Use the following procedure:

1. Loosen the "nose cone" screws and remove the drive shaft housing from the engine.
2. Remove drive shaft from drive shaft housing.
3. Check the drive shaft for broken wires, twists or kinks, and replace if damage is found.
4. Using a clean cloth, wipe the drive shaft thoroughly to remove any old grease.
5. Apply a uniform coat of lube to the entire surface of the drive shaft.
6. Inject the remaining contents of the tube into the top of the drive shaft housing.
7. Replace drive shaft in the drive shaft housing.
8. Reassemble drive shaft housing to the engine. Tighten screws securely.

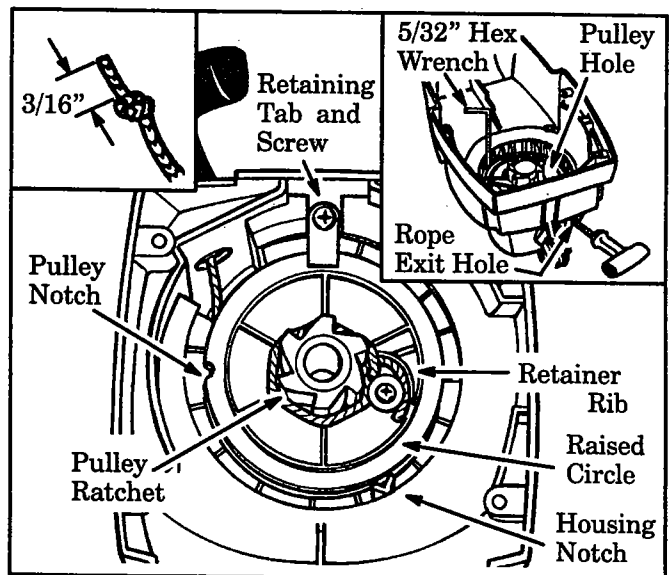
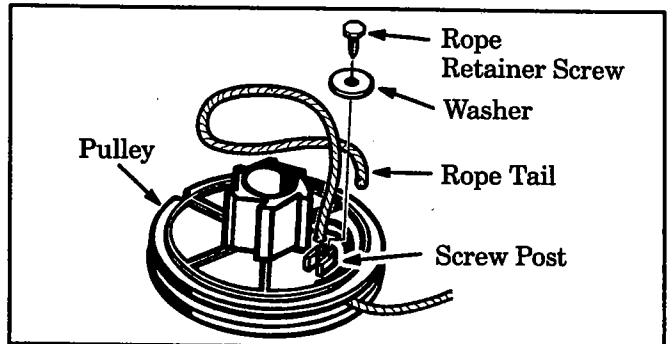
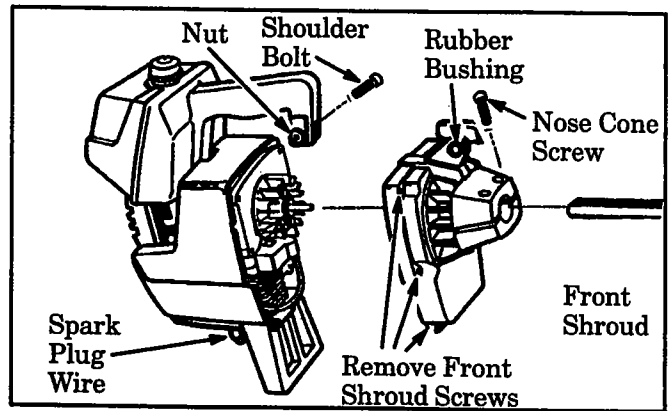


## D. STARTER ROPE

### ▲ WARNING

Do not remove the retaining tab and screw or the pulley. The spring beneath the pulley is under tension and can fly out and cause serious injury. If any part of pulley housing assembly is damaged (other than the rope), do not use the unit. Take it to your Authorized Service Dealer.

1. Disconnect spark plug wire.
2. Remove the six front shroud screws with the small hex wrench provided.
3. Remove the shoulder bolt and nut, and remove the rubber bushing on handle mount.
4. Separate front shroud from engine.
5. Remove the rope retainer screw and remove any remaining rope.
6. Hand turn the pulley clockwise as far as it will go. Then, turn the pulley counterclockwise until the pulley notch is aligned with the housing notch. Next, turn the pulley one complete turn counterclockwise until the notches are aligned again.
7. Insert the small hex wrench into the hole formed by the notches to hold the pulley in position.
8. Use a 42" length of replacement rope.
9. Move away 10 feet (3 meters) from the fuel tank with the replacement rope. Use a match and melt both ends of the rope to prevent fraying.
10. Pull melted ends through a thick, clean rag while Rope is still hot to obtain smooth, pointed ends.
11. Insert one end of rope through handle and secure with a knot. Leave a 3/16" pigtail behind knot.
12. Insert the other end of the rope through the rope exit hole into the inside of the housing, into the pulley and up through the pulley hole.
13. Wrap rope counterclockwise around the pulley ratchet and tuck loose end under rope where it comes out of the pulley hole. Leave a 1 inch tail laying flat on top of the pulley *between* the retainer rib and the retainer screw/post.
14. Install the rope retainer screw in the screw post.
15. Pull firmly on the rope to tighten it against the pulley ratchet. The rope tail *must not* extend beyond the raised circle on the pulley to prevent interference with the retaining tab.
16. Hold rope taut at rope exit hole so it will not move; remove hex wrench.
17. Slowly feed rope into the pulley housing.
18. Reverse steps 1. through 4. to re-assemble.



## NOTES



## E. CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS

**YOUR WEED EATER PRODUCT HAS BEEN DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED TO SPECIFICATIONS THAT REDUCE HARMFUL EMISSIONS.** After your unit has been run for 5 hours, the engine has broken-in. To ensure that your unit is at peak performance and producing the least amount of harmful emissions *after* break-in, have your Authorized Service Dealer adjust your carburetor for optimum operating conditions.

**NOTE:** Properly adjusting the carburetor is a complicated task. Read all warnings and instructions thoroughly before starting adjustments. If you do not think that you completely understand all warnings and instructions, let your Authorized Service Dealer perform these adjustments.

### ▲ WARNING

Make carburetor adjustments with the drive shaft housing supported to prevent the trimmer line from contacting any object. Hold the unit with your hand; do not use the optional shoulder strap for support.

### ▲ WARNING

Keep others away when making carburetor adjustments.

### ▲ WARNING

Serious injury to the operator and others can occur if the carburetor is not properly adjusted.

- Poor engine performance can be a result of other causes such as dirty air filter, carbon build-up on muffler outlets, etc. See "Trouble Shooting Chart" before proceeding with carburetor adjustments.
- For best results, it is recommended that you have an Authorized Service Dealer make all carburetor adjustments. Your dealer has the training, experience, and tools necessary to properly adjust your unit to meet our factory performance specifications. *This service is not covered by warranty.* If it becomes necessary for you to make carburetor adjustments yourself, follow the described procedures very carefully.
- Very small adjustments can affect engine performance. It is important to turn the screw a very small amount per adjustment and test performance before making further adjustments. Each adjustment should be no more than the width of the slot in the adjusting screw.
- This is a complicated task and it is important to follow instructions in sequence as indicated.

### 1. TROUBLE SHOOTING SUGGESTIONS

- Engine will not continue to run at idle position. See "Idle Speed Adjustment" and "Mixture Adjustment."
- Engine dies or hesitates when it should accelerate. See "Acceleration Check."
- Loss of cutting power which cannot be corrected by cleaning the air filter. See "Mixture Adjustment."
- Engine does not return to idle from full throttle within 2 seconds. See "Deceleration Check."
- Engine will not run. See "Trouble Shooting Chart." Then, if carburetor requires adjustment, begin with "Basic Carburetor Settings."

### ▲ WARNING

The trimmer head will be spinning during this procedure. Wear your protective equipment and observe all safety instructions.

### 2. BASIC CARBURETOR SETTINGS

**NOTE:** In most cases, your engine can be made to run properly with minor carburetor adjustments. Refer to "Trouble Shooting Suggestions" in the left column for the condition you are experiencing and follow the instructions. The basic carburetor settings are provided below.

- a. Turn the mixture screw to the mid point. *Do not attempt to adjust the screw beyond the stops as damage can occur.*

### 3. ADJUSTING PROCEDURE

#### a. PREPARATION

1. Use a fresh fuel mix. See "Fueling Your Engine."
2. Make sure the line extends to the length allowed by the line limiter to provide correct load on engine.
3. Start the engine. Cut grass for 3 minutes to warm engine. *The engine must be at operating temperature before carburetor adjustments can be performed correctly.*

#### b. IDLE SPEED ADJUSTMENT

1. Allow engine to idle; be sure the trimmer line is extended to maximum length allowed by the line limiter.
2. Adjust idle speed screw until engine continues to run without stalling.
  - Turn screw clockwise to increase engine speed if the engine stalls or dies.
  - Turn screw counterclockwise to slow engine down.
3. Follow instructions in "Acceleration Check" and "Deceleration Check."
4. No further adjustments are necessary if performance is satisfactory.

#### c. ACCELERATION CHECK

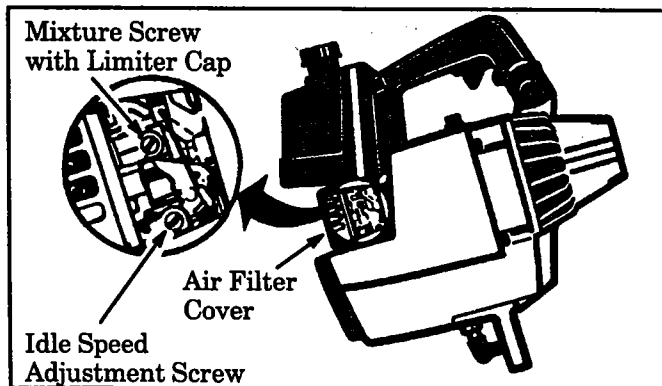
1. Allow engine to idle; be sure the trimmer line is extended to maximum length allowed by the line limiter.
2. Squeeze trigger fully
  - a. If performance is satisfactory, proceed to "d. Deceleration Check."
  - b. If the engine does not accelerate smoothly, turn the mixture screw counterclockwise a small amount (no more than the width of the slot in the adjusting screw).
3. Repeat step "2." until smooth acceleration is obtained.
4. Do not attempt to adjust the screw beyond the stops as damage can occur.

**NOTE:** It may be necessary to repeat "Idle Speed Adjustment" through "Acceleration Check," to obtain correct adjustments.

5. Follow instructions in "Deceleration Check."

#### d. DECELERATION CHECK

1. Allow engine to idle; be sure the trimmer line is extended to maximum length allowed by the line limiter.
2. Squeeze throttle trigger fully.
3. Allow engine to run at full speed for about 1 second.
4. Release the throttle trigger to the idle position and listen to the deceleration of the engine. It must return to idle smoothly within 1 to 2 seconds.
  - a. **If performance is satisfactory**, no further adjustments are necessary.
  - b. **If the engine slowly or erratically returns to idle or idles erratically**, proceed to "Mixture Adjustment."



#### e. MIXTURE ADJUSTMENT

**CAUTION:** Do not operate engine at full throttle for prolonged periods while making mixture adjustments as damage to the engine can occur.

1. Support the drive shaft housing so the trimmer head is off the ground and the line will not make contact with any object.
2. Start the engine; be sure the trimmer line is extended to maximum length allowed by the line limiter. Allow engine to idle, then squeeze throttle trigger fully.

**NOTE:** Perform steps "3." through "5." at full throttle.

3. Turn mixture screw very slowly clockwise until engine speed is reduced.
4. Turn mixture screw very slowly counter-clockwise. Stop when the engine begins to run roughly.
5. Turn the screw slowly the minimum amount clockwise until the engine runs smoothly.
6. Do not attempt to adjust the screw beyond the stops as damage can occur.
7. Follow instructions in "Acceleration Check" and "Deceleration Check".

**CAUTION:** If the engine does not operate according to these instructions after repeating the adjusting steps, do not use the unit. Take it to your Authorized Service Dealer.

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#### F. SPARK PLUG -- Replace the spark plug yearly.

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## NOTES

## G.TROUBLE SHOOTING CHART

SYMPTOM	CAUSE	REMEDY
Engine will not start or will run only for a few seconds after starting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fuel tank empty.</li> <li>2. Engine flooded.</li> <li>3. Spark plug not firing.</li> <li>4. Fuel not reaching carburetor.</li> <li>5. Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>6. None of the above.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fill tank with correct fuel mixture</li> <li>2. See "Starting Instructions."</li> <li>3. Install new plug/check ignition system.</li> <li>4. Clean fuel filter; inspect fuel line.</li> <li>5. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>6. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ol>
Engine will not idle properly.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Idle speed set too fast or too slow.</li> <li>2. Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>3. None of the above.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>2. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>3. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ol>
Engine will not accelerate, lacks power, or dies under a load.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Air filter dirty.</li> <li>2. Spark plug fouled.</li> <li>3. Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>4. Muffler outlets plugged.</li> <li>5. None of the above.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clean or replace air filter.</li> <li>2. Clean or replace spark plug and re-gap.</li> <li>3. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>4. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer.</li> <li>5. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ol>
Engine smokes excessively.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Air filter dirty.</li> <li>2. Fuel mixture incorrect.</li> <li>3. Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clean or replace air filter.</li> <li>2. See "Fueling Your Unit."</li> <li>3. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> </ol>
Engine runs hot.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fuel mixture incorrect.</li> <li>2. Carburetor set too low (lean).</li> <li>3. Spark plug incorrect.</li> <li>4. None of the above.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See "Fueling Your Unit."</li> <li>2. See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>3. Replace with correct plug.</li> <li>4. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer</li> </ol>
Cutting Head stops under a load or does not turn when engine is accelerated.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drive shaft broken.</li> <li>2. Drive shaft not engaged.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact your Authorized Service Dealer.</li> <li>2. Replace or see "Assembly".</li> </ol>
Line does not advance or breaks while cutting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line improperly routed in head.</li> <li>2. Line improperly wound onto spool.</li> <li>3. Line size incorrect.</li> <li>4. Too little line outside head.</li> <li>5. Dirt accumulated on cover cut-outs.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove cover. Check line routing.</li> <li>2. Rewind line tightly and evenly.</li> <li>3. Use only .080" dia. WEED LINE brand line.</li> <li>4. Remove cover. Pull 4" of line to outside.</li> <li>5. Clean cover cut-outs.</li> </ol>
Line welds on spool.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line size incorrect.</li> <li>2. Incorrect spool.</li> <li>3. Crowding line against material being cut.</li> <li>4. Cutting at higher speed than necessary.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use only .080" dia. WEED LINE brand line.</li> <li>2. Use proper spool.</li> <li>3. Cut with tip of line.</li> <li>4. Reduce cutting speed.</li> </ol>
Line releases continuously.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tap Button engaged.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove and clean Tap Button.</li> </ol>
Line usage is excessive.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Line size incorrect.</li> <li>2. Cutting at high speed around hard objects.</li> <li>3. Crowding line against material being cut.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use only .080" dia. WEED LINE brand line.</li> <li>2. Reduce speed around hard objects.</li> <li>3. Cut with tip of line.</li> </ol>
Line pulls back into head.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Too little line outside of head.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove cover. Pull 4" of line to outside.</li> </ol>

## **CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE ?**

**call 1-800-554-6723**

One of the most important priorities at POULAN/WEED EATER is customer satisfaction, especially *after* the sale. Your product has been expertly engineered and carefully manufactured to rigid quality standards to provide you with optimum performance and maximum operational lifetime. As with all mechanical products, however, making adjustments or replacing parts may be necessary during the life of your unit.

Because customer satisfaction is a major priority, POULAN/WEED EATER has established a special, toll free Customer Assistance Service to assist you with any after-the-sale needs. Whether you need a replacement part, an accessory, the name of your nearest sales or service dealer, or just need help in assembling your unit, our customer service representatives will be available to answer your questions.

When calling our Customer Assistance Service, please be prepared to give the description of the unit, the model number, serial number, and, if ordering parts, the part number or description of each part. Call 1-800-554-6723. Our representatives will be glad to help.

### **FOR SERVICE OR REPLACEMENT PARTS:**

1. Consult your dealer/place of purchase.
2. Consult the yellow pages of your phone directory for the name of the nearest POULAN/WEED EATER Master Service Dealer (under "saws" for Chain Saws or under "lawnmowers" for Trimmers, Brushcutters, and Blowers).

**NOTE:** POULAN/WEED EATER Division provides parts and service through its authorized distributors and dealers; therefore, all requests for parts and service should be directed to your local dealer(s). The philosophy of POULAN/WEED EATER Division is to continually improve all of its products. If the operating characteristics or the appearance of your product differs from those described in this Operator's Manual, please contact your local POULAN/WEED EATER Dealer for updated information and assistance.

**POULAN/WEED EATER**  
DIVISION OF WCI OUTDOOR PRODUCTS, INC.  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71129 U.S.A.

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